

REMARKS

The claims in the application are Claims 6, 7, 10, 11, 13-16, 23-26 and 28. Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 12, 17-22, 27 and 29 have been cancelled by previous amendment.

The above amendments are requested to be entered as they are believed to place the claims in condition for allowance. The independent claims now omit iminodiacetic acid (IDA) and the multidentate is now limited to those having at least three carboxylate groups

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102 AND 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 6, 7, 10, 11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as well as under 35 U.S.C. 103 in view of Alberto et al (J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1998, Vol. 120, pp. 7987-7988). These rejections have been overcome by the above amendments to the claims wherein IDA has been cancelled from the claims and the multidentates are limited to those having at least three carboxylate groups. The remarks of applicant already of record with regard to these rejections and amendments are repeated here. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) and 103 in view of these amendments.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTIONS

Claims 6, 7, 10, 11 and 14 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting of the obviousness type over claims 2, 3 and 12 of U.S. Patent 6,344,178 to Alberto et al. In addition, the Examiner has rejected all of the claims in this application on similar grounds over claims 8, 9, 11 and 13-17 of U.S. Patent 6,359,119 to Pipes et al. A terminal disclaimer covering both of these patents is enclosed herewith. As noted by the Examiner in the above noted Office Action, a timely filed Terminal Disclaimer would overcome these rejections. A Terminal Disclaimer covering both of the above noted patents is enclosed herewith together with an authorization to pay the appropriate fee.

Accordingly, the above amendments and enclosed Terminal Disclaimer are seen to overcome all of the outstanding rejections of record. Authorization of the fee for such Disclaimer is enclosed herewith. Therefore the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a Notice of Allowance at the earliest convenience of the Examiner.

If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved or if other action could be taken to further advance this

Application of: Dyszlewski, Mary M.

Serial No.: 10/030,741

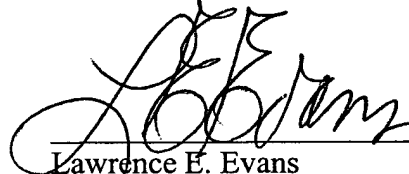
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

application, such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendments, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's attorney, Raymond C. Loyer at 314-822-8257 in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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